

Appl. No. 09/822,167
Amdt. dated April 11, 2005
Reply to Office action of January 12, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method of configuring an electronic device, wherein the method comprises:
receiving device configuration information from a user;
storing the device configuration information into an online database; and
receiving a synchronization request from an electronic device that is to be configured in accordance with the configuration information; and
providing device configuration information from the database to the electronic device in response to the synchronization request.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic device is designed for residential use.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic device is a digital audio recorder.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic device is one of a set consisting of: alarm clocks, answering machines, audio electronics, multimedia electronics, home management systems, security systems, and sprinkler systems.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic device is a white good.
6. (Canceled).
7. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 6~~ claim 1, wherein the synchronization request includes a serial number of the electronic device.

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8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the synchronization request further includes an indication of whether any configuration changes have been made on the electronic device since a previous synchronization.
9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the synchronization request further includes any configuration changes that have been made on the electronic device since a previous synchronization.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising:
after receiving any configuration changes from the electronic device,
updating the configuration information of the device in the database.
11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein if any configuration changes from the electronic device conflict with configuration information provided by the user since the previous synchronization, priority is given to whichever changes were most recently made.
12. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1, further comprising:~~ A method of configuring an electronic device, wherein the method comprises:
receiving device configuration information from a user;
storing the device configuration information into an online database;
providing device configuration information from the database to the
electronic device; and
periodically servicing an account associated with the electronic device,
wherein the servicing includes:
determining if alternate resources are enabled, and if so, updating
the device configuration information in the online database in
accordance with information obtained from the alternate
resources.

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13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the alternate resources include one of the set consisting of: news subscriptions, weather, personalized traffic information, financial markets, financial portfolio information, and television listings.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said act of updating the device configuration information includes changing a configuration value previously set by the user.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the configuration value is a wakeup time.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device configuration information includes song playlists.

17. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1, further comprising:~~ A method of configuring an electronic device, wherein the method comprises:
~~before said act of receiving device configuration information from the user,~~
receiving an initial communication from the electronic device; and
creating an account in the online database associated with the electronic device;
receiving device configuration information from a user after said acts of
receiving an initial communication and creating an account;
storing the device configuration information into an online database; and
providing device configuration information from the database to the
electronic device.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the initial communication includes a device serial number.

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19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the initial communication further includes an initial password.
20. (Currently amended) A device configuration system that comprises:
a network;
one or more servers coupled to the network and configured to provide an online service, wherein the service includes:
providing a web page interface featuring a home page for an electronic device owned by a user;
receiving device configuration information from the user via the interface;
storing the device configuration information into an online database;
receiving a synchronization request from the electronic device; and
providing device configuration information from the database to the electronic device in response to the synchronization request.
21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the electronic device is a digital audio recorder.
22. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the electronic device is one of a set consisting of: alarm clocks, answering machines, audio electronics, multimedia electronics, home management systems, security systems, and sprinkler systems.
23. (Canceled).
24. (Currently amended) The system of ~~claim 23~~ claim 20, wherein the synchronization request includes a serial number of the electronic device.

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25. (Original) The system of claim 24, wherein the synchronization request further includes any configuration changes that have been made on the electronic device since a previous synchronization.

26. (Currently amended) ~~The system of claim 20, wherein the service further includes:~~ A device configuration system that comprises:

a network;

one or more servers coupled to the network and configured to provide an online service, wherein the service includes:

providing a web page interface featuring a home page for an electronic device owned by a user;

receiving device configuration information from the user via the interface;

storing the device configuration information into an online database;

providing device configuration information from the database to the electronic device; and

periodically servicing an account associated with the electronic device, wherein the servicing includes[[:]] determining if alternate resources are enabled, and if so, updating the device configuration information in the online database in accordance with information obtained from the alternate resources.

27. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the alternate resources include one of the set consisting of: news subscriptions, weather, personalized traffic information, financial markets, financial portfolio information, and television listings.

28. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein said updating the device configuration information includes changing a configuration value previously set by the user.

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29. (Original) The system of claim 28, wherein the configuration value is a wakeup time.

30. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the device configuration information includes song playlists.

31. (Currently amended) ~~The system of claim 20, wherein the service further includes:~~ A device configuration system that comprises:

a network;

one or more servers coupled to the network and configured to provide an online service, wherein the service includes:

~~before said receiving device configuration information from the user,~~

receiving an initial communication from the electronic device; and
creating an account in the online database associated with the
electronic device.

providing a web page interface featuring a home page for an
electronic device owned by a user;

receiving device configuration information from the user via the
interface after said receiving an initial communication and
creating an account;

storing the device configuration information into an online database;
and

providing device configuration information from the database to the
electronic device.

32. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the initial communication includes a device serial number.

33. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the initial communication further includes an initial password generated by the electronic device.

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34. (New) A method of configuring an electronic device, wherein the method comprises:

receiving device configuration information from a user;
storing the device configuration information into an online database; and
providing device configuration information from the database to the
electronic device,
wherein the electronic device is one of a set consisting of: alarm clocks,
answering machines, and sprinkler systems.